



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

DEPUTY MAYOR MICHAEL ZUCCHET

SECOND DISTRICT

March 15, 2005

Chairman John Minan and Regional Board Members
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, California 92123-4340

**RE: Comments on NPDES Nos. CA0108073 and CA0108181, Tentative Orders
No. R9-2005-0005 and R9-2005-0006, Southern California Edison San
Onofre Nuclear Generating Stations (SONGS) Units 2 and 3**

Dear Chairman Minan and Board Members:

We are writing to strongly urge the Regional Board to adopt a permit for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) that both protects our region's precious water resources and complies with state and federal environmental regulations.

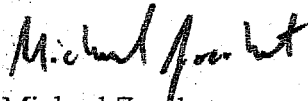
The SONGS Units 2 and 3 draw in approximately 2.4 billion gallons of seawater per day to cool the steam condensers used to generate 2,174 Megawatts of power. These steam generators often operate for up to 24 hours uninterrupted. The cooling water is then discharged back into the shallow coastal waters at 25 degrees above the intake temperature. This ongoing process has resulted in severe marine ecosystem consequences in the region.

We understand the San Diego Bay Council has identified significant gaps in findings and information related to the environmental impacts on water quality, marine life and beneficial uses in our waters. We are also aware that many surfers testified at the public hearing regarding their use of the waters, the degradation of the coast due to the plant's operation and their desire to ensure its protection.

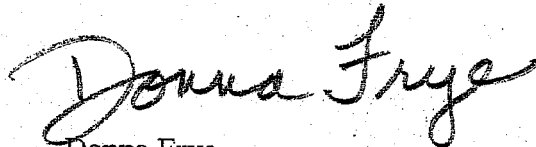
Given the magnitude and great public interest in this discharge permit, we urge the Board to defer any immediate action in the adoption of these Orders until the significant gaps in key information regarding environmental impacts are included and the public has had a chance to review that information in order to provide meaningful input.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael Zucchet
Deputy Mayor



Donna Frye
Councilmember, Sixth District